

## HOME, ITS PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS

## FOR COUNTRY USE

Novel Ideas in Candlesticks—Russian Designs—Antique in Demand.

Candlesticks for country homes are in great demand just now, when people are preparing to leave the city for the summer months, and they realize they must supply the lack of gas or electricity. Lamps, of course, are necessary, but candlesticks absorb the interest of the mistress of a country home, for she is searching either for the old Sheffield plate or for novel oddities, and both kinds are hard to come by.

## To Use on Table.

The candlesticks patterned after the Corinthian pillar, with the bobash neatly placed in the top of the column and of similar Colonial type, are good for use on dining room and hall tables.

Of the oddities in candlesticks, a ring-tail monkey, made in brass in the old Assyrian style, without perspective, is the most unique. His long tail is curled around the cup for the candle and is thrown high above his back while his front feet are raised as if to strike at an enemy who would make a light. His hind legs, held close to a small pedestal or square block, on which he crouches with his body in a V shape, are used as a handle. Monkey candlesticks are inexpensive, costing about \$3 or \$3.50 apiece.

## Russian Enamel.

Russian candlesticks of enameled copper are unlike the designs of any other country. They have the height of the colonial pattern, but the resemblance to styles we know ends there. These are made in the form of a triangle, one three sides of thin sheets of copper that give a heavy, substantial look which we do not expect to find in candlesticks. The enamel in either red or blue is burnt on with a brown coloring that gives the candlestick an Oriental appearance. These are used in a dining room in a brown and green dining-room with Delft ware on the table, or in a den furnished in the Dutch style, they are more like Dutch designs than Russian ideas. The Japanese candlesticks are very simple like the antiques so valuable now. But the bowl is very deep and looks like a well soup bowl. It is absolutely without decoration, except some small simple lines cut through. The more modern patterns have a bowl like the antiques and a metal candlestick inside, and the bowl is placed, and as it burns is pushed up by an automatic spring. With this the candlestick is a new dripless candle is used. The flame from this candle is more like a jet of gas, and is very practical, but is not to be thought of by those who want original designs or antique candlesticks for their country homes.

## SOME NUT RECIPES

It Is Surprising How Staple an Article of Food Nuts Are in Some Countries.

Nuts—Are generally considered indigestible, but there is a class of writers on dietary matters which teaches that most nuts are wholesome if not mixed with certain other kinds of food.

In German hospitals, it is said, the peanut is used as a staple article of food, and cooked much as dried beans or peas would be. Flour is made from the nuts and used in China and Germany for bread or cakes. We have not gone quite so far as this, but believers in a nut diet must be greatly cheered by the fact that the nut is not only a staple food, but it is also a staple article of dress.

Nuts added to most salads are an improvement thereof, and, unless they are blanched, they are little or no trouble to prepare, especially if the nuts are bought all ready for use. Nut sandwiches, made of thin slices of brown bread thickly buttered and spread with chopped and salted nut meats, make a change. The nuts may be chopped with a chopper or run through a meat mill. A little nut butter may be added to the nuts if the combination is liked. In some cases the nuts are ground fine, mixed with a little mayonnaise sauce spread on a slice of bread, and topped with a slice of nut and then with the second half of the sandwich. Nuts added to a mince chicken sandwich makes an improved variety of the old sandwich.

Nuts are used in many cakes, and a nut pie is a dainty dessert. A rich crust should be made and the pie baked in a cup of nut meats, chopped fine, is beaten into a mixture made of two beaten eggs, half a cup of powdered sugar, a tablespoonful of wine, a pinch of salt and a few drops of lemon juice. Fill the pie with the nut mixture and bake in a brisk oven. When cold, heap a meringue or whipped cream on the pie and serve immediately. The pie is a best made summer treat, and is a good treat for a party.

Ice cream is better a la noisette—that is, flavored with nut meats—that is, nut butter, and the just before moment of freezing. Try this with coffee and bisque cream, and see how delicious the result.

## To Clean Mirrors.

Whiting mixed to a cream in alcohol may be used to clean mirror surfaces. To clean a gilt mirror frame brush off every particle of loose dust, then wet it a little space at a time with alcohol applied with a camel's hair brush. Rub off the alcohol before it dries with clean soft silk cloth or fine flannel. The soil should come with it, so change the cloth often.

If there are breaks or rubbed places in an ornamental frame fill up with plaster wet extremely soft with smooth egg, and quickly rub it in with a brush over with plaster newly wet to a cream in tepid water. When the outer coat is fully dry, rub it off with a soft cloth, and paint with gold paint. Only the finest frames are worth the genuine gold leaf. The same treatment applies to picture frames.

Pictures themselves are best cleaned by a rapid wiping over with a cloth wet with water and afterward with other quick wash with weak white soap suds. They must be patted, not rubbed, dry with a soft towel. Nothing powerful enough either chemically or mechanically to attack varnish and colors ought ever to touch a canvas.

If a mirror is badly blurred resilvering is the only genuine cure. Partial blurring may be mitigated in several ways, and a mirror may be made invisible. Take out the wooden back, wipe the silvered side quickly and carefully with a cloth wrung out in warm water. Be sure to wring it dry and follow it with a patting from a soft hot towel. If there are scratches pat them over with the best silver putty, cover, and leave to dry. Or the scratches may be backed with a square of silver or tin foil, with a drop of white glue at each corner.



## LITTLE COAT OF ONION GREEN TAFFETA.

Silk coats vary from frivolous little wraps to long, ample coats, capable of protecting delicate summer frocks, though often overelaborate for service themselves.

The coats are, as a rule, little trimmed, and our illustration is a charming example in onion green taffeta. Its only decorations are tucked bands of silk set on in design and flat collar of green velvet. The buttons are cut steel.

## NOVEL SMALL PURSE BAGS THAT HOLD TOILET ARTICLES

## Newest Cases for Money Contain Many of the Conveniences of Dressing Table.

Bags that women will carry this season are not only a delight to the eye, but are equally useful. Those charming little "vanity" bags are a temptation to even the plainest woman to improve her appearance. Under the simple guise of a purse the very latest of them contain "all the comforts of a well appointed toilet table," as an enthusiastic customer phrased it the other day, when viewing some of the latest inventions in this line.

The American manufacturers have gone the French one better in its improvement. There is a new design, just out, which, when closed to carry in the hand, it is simply impossible to believe that it could hold so much in so small a compass. There is a pair of opera glasses of the finest French make that fit into a special compartment, and beside it is a little cut glass flask for smelling salts or whatever one chooses, and a little box slips into a fitted strap on the other side. Then there is a change purse, a bill fold, a card case, and a mirror and powder puff. The whole thing is lined with a dainty moire silk, and the marvel of it all is that the size of the closed bag indicates no more than the usual woman's purse.

## Bags to Match Gowns.

Those who can afford it are having all of the summer costumes matched in bags of many and various kinds. There is simply not a leather of any kind that is not fashioned into a bag. There are some exquisitely soft oiled calf skins that take dye beautifully, and the soft raspberry reds, rose pinks, mauve, and violet

## A FASHIONABLE GOWN

That Is Just the Thing for a Well Dressed.

Fine net as a material for handsome dinner gowns appears to gain in favor week by week. Among a group of imported models arrived within the last few days is one made of the material in the shade of blue known as Alice and trimmed most elaborately with real old-time blonde lace. The skirt was just the simple full one gathered at the belt, but made over with a trim in favor of week.

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A second gown of a similar sort is also of blue, but the pale tint which belongs to the sky on a warm day, and is combined with a net elaborately embroidered and enriched by applique of lace. The skirt in this instance is quite novel and is very full with a flounce at the bottom, above which are narrower flills, each one being edged with a band of white mulline silk some two and a half inches in width, which serve both as a protection to the filmy chiffon and

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## IN SWEEPING

Dusting and Arranging Is the Real Work of the Day's Cleaning.

The preparation of the room and the arrangement of the furniture and other articles after it has been cleaned are more work than the manipulating of the broom and duster. Brice-a-brac and fancy articles should be dusted or wiped carefully and removed to another room. Soft chesecloth or a silk handkerchief makes an excellent dust cloth.

Pieces of furniture and chairs which are easily moved should be dusted and placed in an adjoining room. Stuffed furniture should be beaten with a rattan beater, the dust from the folds and tufting removed with a pointed brush that comes for the purpose, resembling a painter's brush, and the surface then carefully brushed with a hand broom. Large pieces of furniture that cannot be removed should be carefully and closely covered with dusting sheets.

## Care for the Bed First.

In sweeping bedrooms the bed should first be dusted, the made and covered over with a large sweeping cloth. Rugs should be swept and placed over the clothesline outdoors for the air to freshen. Portieres should be unhooked from the rings, brushed and shaken outdoors. Muslin or lace draperies at the windows should be lifted and removed with the pole from the supporting brackets and the dust brushed or shaken from them.

The windows should be opened and the blinds dusted. If the windows need washing this should not be done until after the sweeping, when the paint is wiped. Cover the broom with a soft cloth and brush the walls, cornice, ceilings, tops of doors and windows, or use a long feather duster for the purpose. Dust the pictures and cover them over with cloths.

## To Sweep a Carpet.

A Brussels or nap carpet should be swept with short, light, even strokes, with the grain for the first stroke, then across it for the next, and so on over the carpet, brushing around the edges and in the corners with a whisk broom. To sweep a room without raising a dust, scatter bits of dampened paper over the carpet. After sweeping allow the dust to settle for five or ten minutes, then dampen the broom and go over the carpet lightly, thus removing the dust, after which it may be wiped up with a damp cloth which has been wrung out as dry as possible. Because water to which a few drops of ammonia have been added.

Wipe off all finger marks and spots from the woodwork, polish the mirrors, and if there is a fireplace, wash up the hearth, rub off the ironwork with a cloth dampened with kerosene. Polish the brasses and replace the furniture.

## Flowers Queens Love.

Queen Alexandra is a great lover of violets and lilies of the valley, and is fond of wearing them.

The once radiant but now sorrowing and desolate Empress Eugenie was also devoted to violets, the Bonaparte flower. That lady of uncertain temper, the Dowager Empress of China, detests all other specimens of flowers, especially the royal chrysanthemum, and used to have superb plants in her grounds. The autocratic lady was constantly scolding her gardeners for the reason the "chrysants" they raised were not large enough to content her, and once remarked that horticulturists ought to do some way to make flowers and fruits grow simultaneously on all trees. King Edward has recently adopted the carnation for a buttonhole.

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